

A RESOLUTION of the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, setting forth the policy of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, in regards to supporting proposed legislation for expediting the tax reversion process in the State of Indiana.

WHEREAS, an important factor in the strength of a community is the health of its residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, abandoned houses have a blighting influence on neighborhoods by their appearance, the dangers they pose to children, and the opportunities they provide for criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, each year the City of Fort Wayne spends tens of thousands of dollars to secure vacant, deteriorated structures and in 1993 the cost will be over \$80,000; and

WHEREAS, the longer a house sits vacant, the more deterioration it suffers and the less feasible rehabilitation becomes; and

WHEREAS, many abandoned houses are significantly delinquent in their property taxes; and

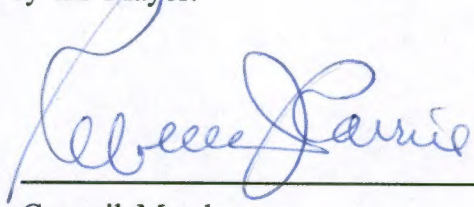
WHEREAS, current Indiana law provides for a lengthy process of "tax sale" which results in many properties being vacant three to five years before the properties can be transferred to a responsible owner for rehabilitation,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne supports efforts in the Indiana General Assembly to allow local governments, at their option, to expedite the property tax reversion process, particularly for properties in which criminal activity is occurring.

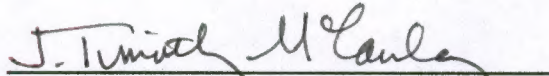
SECTION 2. The Common Council urges the Indiana General Assembly to adopt such legislation.

SECTION 3. That this resolution be in full force and effect from and after its
passage and any and all necessary approval by the Mayor.



Council Member

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGALITY


J. Timothy McCauley, City Attorney

PRIMA STAR BOND
SOUTHWORTH CO. U.S.A.
25% COTTON FIBER

Read the first time in full and on motion by Long, seconded by _____, and duly adopted, read the second time by title and referred to the Committee on Regulations (and the City Plan Commission for recommendation) and Public Hearing to be held after due legal notice, at the Common Council Conference Room 128, City-County Building, Fort Wayne, Indiana, on _____, the _____ day of _____, 19____, at _____ o'clock _____ M., E.S.T.

DATED: 12-14-93

Sandra E. Kennedy
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK

Read the third time in full and on motion by Long, seconded by _____, and duly adopted, placed on its passage.
PASSED LOST by the following vote:

	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
TOTAL VOTES	<u>9</u>			
BRADBURY	<u>✓</u>			
EDMONDS	<u>✓</u>			
GiaQUINTA	<u>✓</u>			
HENRY	<u>✓</u>			
LONG	<u>✓</u>			
LUNSEY	<u>✓</u>			
RAVINE	<u>✓</u>			
SCHMIDT	<u>✓</u>			
TALARICO	<u>✓</u>			

DATED: 12-14-93

Sandra E. Kennedy
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK

Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, as (ANNEXATION) (APPROPRIATION) (GENERAL) (SPECIAL) (ZONING) ORDINANCE RESOLUTION NO. R-67-93 on the 14th day of December, 1993

ATTEST:
Sandra E. Kennedy
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)
Mark P. GiaQuinta
PRESIDING OFFICER

Presented by me to the Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, on the 15th day of December, 1993, at the hour of 2:00 o'clock P, M., E.S.T.

Sandra E. Kennedy
SANDRA E. KENNEDY, CITY CLERK

Approved and signed by me this 16th day of December, 1993, at the hour of 11:15 o'clock P M., E.S.T.

Paul Helmke
PAUL HELMKE, MAYOR



MEMORANDUM

R- 93-12-18

TO: Fort Wayne City Council Members

FROM: Karen Goldner, ^{KG}Community Development Projects Administrator

DATE: December 7, 1993

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Tax Reversion Legislation

Background:

As you know, Indiana state law governs the process by which tax delinquent property ownership reverts to Allen County. The period of time required for this process to take place is often three to five years, with significant deterioration occurring before the county can transfer ownership to a responsible party who can rehabilitate and maintain the property. This is a significant problem in central Fort Wayne, where houses sit abandoned and are owned by "nobody."

For several years, Senator Tom Wyss and others in our legislative delegation have attempted to change this procedure to expedite tax reversion under certain circumstances where properties are abandoned. Senator Wyss plans to introduce legislation to this effect during the 1994 legislative session.

Recommendation:

We urge Council to adopt the attached resolution in support of Senator Wyss, Representative Ben GiaQuinta, and others in their efforts to make this important change. This resolution will send a message to the Indiana General Assembly that our current property tax collection system contributes significantly to the deterioration of our neighborhoods and will express the City's desire to institute changes to the system which may assuage some of these problems.

KG/amm

Attachment

DIGEST SHEET

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: Support of Tax Reversion Legislation.

DEPARTMENT REQUESTING ORDINANCE: Community Development Projects
office of the Division of Community & Economic Developoment

SYNOPSIS OF ORDINANCE: Resolution to back the efforts of State
legislators to revise current tax reversion laws.

EFFECT OF PASSAGE: City will show support.

EFFECT OF NON-PASSAGE: No support will be shown.

MONEY INVOLVED (Direct cost, expenditures, savings): None.

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE: _____

BILL NO. R-93-12-18

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
REGULATIONS

DAVID C. LONG & REBECCA J. RAVINE - CO-CHAIRPERSONS
LUNSEY, SCHMIDT

WE, YOUR COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS TO WHOM WAS

REFERRED AN (~~ORDINANCE~~) (RESOLUTION) of the City of Fort
Wayne, Indiana, setting forth the policy of the City
of Fort Wayne, Indiana, in regards to supporting proposed
legislation for expediting the tax reversion process in the
State of Indiana.

HAVE HAD SAID (ORDINANCE) (RESOLUTION) UNDER CONSIDERATION
AND BEG LEAVE TO REPORT BACK TO THE COMMON COUNCIL THAT SAID
(ORDINANCE) (RESOLUTION)

DO PASS

DO NOT PASS

ABSTAIN

NO REC

Rebecca J. Ravine
David C. Long
580
Micki Long

DATED: 12-14-93

Sandra E. Kennedy
City Clerk